Talks with Sri Lankan Government on Tamils

441. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had talks with the Sri Lankan Government recently to settle the problem of Tamils; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Government have been in continuous dialogue with the Government of Sri Lanka in regard to settling the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka.

(b) Government's endeavour is to reduce the gap between the positions of the Government of Sri Lanka and the Sri Lanka Tamil groups in order to facilitate a final settlement. The efforts are being continued.

Punjab's request for more forces

442. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has asked for some more forces from the Centre to control the woresening law and order situation in that State; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Additional forces have been provided to Punjab Government.

Regularisation of ad-hoc Group 'D' Employees

443. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Hindustan of 18th January, 1986 to the effect that Supreme Court of India has expressed its distress over unhealthy practice of keeping Group 'D' employees on *ad-hoc* basis for years together and exhorted Government to regularise the service of the persons who are working on *ad-hoc* basis for more than six months;

(b) whether Government have issued or propose to issue instructions to various Ministries and Departments to regularies the services of those working on *ad-hoc* basis for more than six months;

(c) whether Government are aware that a number of Group 'D' employees in various Ministries|Departments particularly in Ministry of Labour, Urban Development and Information and Broadcasting and its office of Director-General, Doordarshan, Delhi Doordarshan. Press Information Bureau etc. are being kept on ad-hoc basis for more than 2—3 years; and

(d) what immediate remedial steps Government propose to take to regularise the services of such employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a), (b) and (d) The Supreme Court deilvered a judgement on 17-1-86 in the context of a prayer made by some daily wage workers of the CPWD for a direction that they should be paid the same wages as admissible to the regular employees doing identical work, even if it was not possible to employ them on regular basis. The Supreme Court gave the direction as prayed for by the petitioners and also made certain general observations about regularisation of services of the persons employed on daily wage Basis.

According to existing instructions, no person can be appointed on daily wage basis for work of regular nature. If work of regular nature exists in a Ministry|Department|Office. steps should be taken to create suitable posts and fill them up in accordance with the prescribed procedure, subject to the ban on creation|filling up of posts, if any. Recruitment of persons on daily wage basis is required to be

restricted to work of purely casual|seasonal|intermittent| part-time nature for which no posts can be created.

Instructions have also been issued for regularisation of the services of casual workers against Group 'D' posts in Ministries|Departments, etc. subject to their fulfilling the eligibility conditions, provided suitable vacancies exist. Consequently, regularisation of the services of such persons in Group 'D' posts cannot be effected within any prescribed time frame.

(c) The various Ministries|Departments are themselves competent to regularise the services of their casual workers in Group 'D' posts in terms of the general instructions on the subjects. The information regarding regularisation of services of casual workers is not monitored centrally. This Department is, therefore, not in a position to make any comments in regard for Part (c) of the question.

Appointment of another commission to settle Punjab-Haryana issues

444. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint another Commission as suggested by the Mathew Commission to settle Punjab-Haryana issues; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU): (a) and (b) Discussions have been held with the Chief Ministers of Punjab and Haryana with a view to deciding the course of action.

Revision of pay-scales of Defence Scientists

445. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revise the pay scales of and to give more incentives to the scientists working in the defence establishments in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) These matters are under consideration of the Fourth Central Pay Commission. The Government will take a view after their report is received.

(d) Does not arise.

Poverty eradication programme

446. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing machinery in his Ministry to monitor the poverty eradication programme in the country;

(b) whether the exsting machinery is adequate for the purpose;

(c) what is the present system of monitoring the programmes; and

(d) whether Government are aware that achievements under point 7(A) of the 20-Point Programme are tardy during the current financial year and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHARY): (a) One division viz. 20-Point Programme Monitoring Division exists in this Ministry to monitor the 20-Point Programme as a whole including the poverty eradication programme.

(b) In addition to the machinery in this Ministry, the individual items of the Programme are being monitored by the concerned Ministry/Department.

(c) The Programme is being monitored regularly on monthly and quarterly basis. For the Monthly Progress Report, information is received in this Ministry directly from the States/UTs. For the Quarterly